I. AMENDED LIST OF PENDING CLAIMS

4. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (withdrawn) A method of compression of graphic images which make up a video stream, comprising the steps of:

(a) sub-sampling a number of pixel bits from an image selected from said graphic images;

(b) run-length encoding repeated instances of said number of pixel bits;

repeating steps (a) and (b) until each said number of pixel bits is encoded in an encoded data buffer.

2. (withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein the image dimensions are less than or equal to 320 by 240.

3. (withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein said number of pixel bits is one of the set of 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 12, 15, 16, and 24.

4. (withdrawn) The method of claim 3 wherein said number of pixel bits is extracted from the most significant bits of each color component.

5. (withdrawn) An encoded video signal comprising a series of said encoded data buffers, wherein said data buffers were encoded according to the method of claim 1.

6. (withdrawn) A storage medium in which the encoded video signal as claimed in claim 5 is stored.

7. (withdrawn) A method of decompressing an encoded video signal, comprising the steps of:

(a) reading a stream of run-length encoded codes;

(b) determining a series of pixels based on the values and run-lengths of said codes;

(c) combining said pixels into an image.

8. (withdrawn) The method of claim 7 further comprising the step of displaying a series of said images.

9. (withdrawn) The method of claim 7 wherein the width and the height of said image are less than or equal to 320 by 240, respectively.

10. (withdrawn) The method of claim 7 wherein said codes represent the combination most significant bits of each of the color components of each pixel.

11. (currently amended) A machine for compressing of a plurality of video frames which make up a video signal, comprising:

(a) a video digitizer configured to digitize a frame from said video frames;

(b) a video memory which is able to receive a plurality of pixels from said video digitizer;

(c) an encoding circuit for counting repeated instances of a pixel value comprising a number of pixel bits sub-sampled from each pixel when scanning said plurality of pixels and outputting a series of encoded data comprising a combined run-length field and a data field;

wherein the data field of each encoded data element comprises a number in the range from zero to the maximum value of said number of sub-sampled bits, and

wherein the run-length data field of each encoded data element comprises the repeat count of the value in said data field;

(d) a memory which is able to store said encoded data;

(e) an input/output device.

12. (previously presented) The machine of claim 11 wherein said encoding circuit variably selects one of a set of 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 12, 15, 16, and 24, as the number of pixel bits sub-sampled from each pixel
wherein the number of pixel bits sub-sampled is less than the number of bits of the pixel being sub-sampled.

13. (original) The machine of claim 12 wherein said pixel value is extracted from the most significant bits of each color component.

14. (original) The machine of claim 11 wherein said input/output device is a storage medium.

15. (original) The machine of claim 11 wherein said input/output device is a communications transmission channel.

16. (withdrawn) A machine for decompressing an stream of encoded data that represents a video signal, comprising:

(a) an input/output device for reading said stream of encoded data;

(b) a decoding circuit which can decode the encoded data and output a stream of pixel values; and

(c) a memory that is able to store an image comprising said stream of pixel values that can be displayed as frames of a video sequence.

17. (withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein one or more of the settings of width, height, frame rate, brightness, and contrast of said images are variably altered by a receiver of said encoded data.

18. (withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein said number of pixel bits are variably altered by a receiver of said encoded data.

19. (withdrawn) The method of claim 1 further comprising a step of compressing said buffer with a lossless technique known in the art.

20. (withdrawn) The method of claim 8 wherein said images are enlarged by stretching prior to said displaying.

21. (withdrawn) The method of claim 1 further comprising a step of encrypting said number of pixel bits.

22. (withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein said graphic images have a first predetermined frame rate and a subset of said graphic images are sub-sampled at a second frame rate that was less than the first frame rate such that only a subset of said graphic images are selected from the original set of said graphic images, and

wherein said image selected from said graphic images is a sub-sampled image such that it is one of said subset of sub-sampled images.

23. (withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein the image dimensions of said video stream is greater than 320 pixels wide and 240 pixels high, and

wherein said method further comprises the step of first dimensionally sub-sampling an image from said graphic images such that the sub-sampled image dimensions of said image are less than or equal to 320 by 240.

24. (withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein a length of the encoded data in said encoded data buffer in placed in said encoded data buffer.

25. (withdrawn) The method of claim 7 further comprising the step of reading a length of the encoded data and using said length to determine when all the encoded data has been processed.